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Claim Listing

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for milking animals, especially cows, said method comprising the steps of:

        a)   ~~mechanically~~ sequentially stimulating the teats of the animal <u>by a machine,</u> as a way to stimulate the udder; and

        b)   milking the stimulated teats.

2.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein only single teats are stimulated successively.

3.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein a phase without any stimulation occurs between the stimulation phases of two different teats.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at the end of a stimulation phase of a teat, a stimulation phase of another teat occurs.

5.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein before the sequential stimulation of a single teat, the udder receives a pre-stimulation.

6.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein during the step of sequentially stimulating the teats, the intensity of the sequential stimulation decreases during the milking procedure.

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7.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases continuously.

8.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the intensity of the sequential stimulation during the milking procedure decreases discontinuously.

9.   (Previously Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the milk flow or a relevant reference number is either measured or determined during the milking procedure, and the intensity of the sequential stimulation is changed based on the milk flow or the relevant reference number.